

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 20 August 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240000305

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show in:

- item 3 (Social Security Number) as [REDACTED] vice [REDACTED]
- item 9 (Date of Birth) as [REDACTED] MM YYYY vice [REDACTED] MM YYYY

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record), 23 October 2023
- DD Form 214, for the period ending 11 August 1971
- Certificate of Birth, 17 January 2003
- SSN Card
- VA Form 21-4138, 18 April 2023

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b); however, the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) conducted a substantive review of this case and determined it is in the interest of justice to excuse the applicant's failure to timely file.
2. The applicant states his SSN and DOB are listed incorrectly on his DD Form 214. Please see his VA Form 21-4138 for details.
3. In connection with his induction into the Army of the United States, the applicant completed a DD Form 398 (Statement of Personal History). He listed his DOB as [REDACTED] MM YYYY. There is no SSN mentioned on this form.
4. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 12 August 1969. His Induction Record:
 - Listed his DOB as [REDACTED] MM YYYY. However, the date "[REDACTED]" is crossed out and the date "[REDACTED]" is written on top of it.

- Listed his Service Number. Next to his name, however, are two entries: One that is typed and states "SSN: NA" and the second is hand-written and reads [REDACTED]-XX-XXXX.

5. The applicant's DA Form 20, Enlisted Qualification Record, which was created upon his entry on active duty listed his DOB as [REDACTED] MM YYYY and his SSN as [REDACTED]-XX-XXXX.

6. A review of the applicant's service records shows all of the documents in his Official Military Personnel File list the contested SSN ([REDACTED]-XX-XXXX) and DOB ([REDACTED] MM YYYY), including but not limited to:

- DA Form 428 (Application for ID Card), 13 August 1969
- SF 89 and SF 88, 15 January 1970
- DA Form 41 (Record of Emergency Data), 20 February 1970

7. He was honorably released from active duty on 11 August 1971. His DD Form 214 shows in

- Block 3 (Social Security Number) [REDACTED]-XX-XXXX
- Block 9 (Date of Birth) [REDACTED] MM YYYY
- Block 30 (Remarks) entries related to his blood type and education

8. The applicant provides copies of his:

- Social Security Card, reflective of the SSN [REDACTED]-XX-XXXX
- Birth Certificate, reflective of the DOB [REDACTED] MM YYYY

8. AR 600-8 (Name and Birth Data, Social Security Account, and Temporary Identification Number (TIN)), in effect at the time, prescribes the procedures used for recording, issuing or changing personnel information normally used as a means of identification.

a. Chapter 4 (TIN) prescribes the procedures for issuing a TIN as a means of personnel identification for those individuals being processed for military service who did not have an SSN. The number "9" was designated as the first number of the 9-digit TIN.

b. The TIN was entered as a permanent entry on all records. Upon receipt of an SSN, the TIN was to be lined-out and the SSN entered on all records.

9. Information available from the Social Security Administration shows that SSNs beginning with [REDACTED] are not valid SSNs; no numbers above [REDACTED] have ever been issued.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered.

a. DOB: Grant. The applicant's records show his DOB as the [REDACTED] day of the month. This DOB is inconsistent with that shown on his DD Form 214. The applicant submitted a copy of a birth certificate reflective of his DOB as the [REDACTED] day of the month. It appears that a clerical error occurred in the preparation of his DD Form 214. Given that he provides his birth certificate that corroborates this DOB, the Board determined his DD Form 214 should be corrected to show his DOB as reflected on his birth certificate.

b. SSN: Grant: The evidence of record shows the applicant was inducted on 12 August 1969. It appears the applicant did not have his SSN card when he entered active duty and he was issued the TIN of "[REDACTED]"

(1) The applicant consistently used this TIN throughout his entire period of military service. He authenticated several documents by placing his signature in the appropriate blocks, indicating this was his correct "SSN." When he was in the military, he did not use the SSN that is shown on the social security card that he provided with his application to the ABCMR.

(2) For historical purposes, the Army has an interest in maintaining the accuracy of its records. The data and information contained in those records should reflect the conditions and circumstances that existed at the time the records were created. The Board noted that it is impractical, if not impossible, to change all of the applicant's records to reflect his true SSN since this runs the risk of losing or misidentifying documents that employ his original constructed identification number. However, based on the evidence of record and the evidence he submitted, the Board determined it would be appropriate to correct the applicant's DD Form 214 to show the requested SSN in Block 30 (Remarks) of his DD Form 214.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

█	█	█	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined that the evidence presented was sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214 as follows:

- Block 9, delete the existing DOB and add the DOB shown on his Birth Certificate
- Block 30, add the entry "SSN (the number shown on his social security card)"

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I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b), provides that applications for correction of military records must be filed within 3 years after discovery of the alleged error or injustice. This provision of law also allows the ABCMR to excuse an applicant's failure to timely file within the 3-year statute of limitations if the ABCMR determines it would be in the interest of justice to do so.

2. Army Regulation 600-2 (Name and Birth Data, Social Security Account Number, and Temporary Identification Number (TIN)), version effective 1 July 1969, announced the use of the SSN in lieu of military service numbers. A TIN would be issued during the pre-enlistment processing for entrance into the active Army to those individuals who did not have an SSN. The TIN was a 9-digit number that always began with the number "9." Upon receipt of an SSN, the TIN entry on all records would be lined out and the SSAN would be entered.

3. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), Effective 1 February 1967, prescribes the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It establishes standardized policy for the preparation of the DD Form 214. The DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement or discharge. All available records would be used as a basis for the preparation of the DD Form 214, including DA Form 20, DA Form 66, and orders.

a. In item 3 (Social Security Number), transcribe Social Security account number from DA Form 2189 (Military Pay Voucher).

b. In item 9 (Date of Birth), self-explanatory, i.e., enter DOB, day, month, and year (DD-MMM-YY).

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//